[23rd July 1953

Murder cases in Kottayam taluk.

* 913 *Q*.—SRI K. MADHAVAN NAMBIAR: Will the Hon. the Minister for Finance be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether the Hon. Minister for Law received any memorandum from Sri T. K. Raju at Tellicherry in the month of January 1953, regarding the negligence on the part of police authorities in investigating certain murder cases in Kottayam; and

(*b*) if so, what steps the Government have taken thereon?

THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM:—"(*a*) The answer is in the affirmative.

"(*b*) A report has been obtained from the Inspector-General of Police. The report shows that no such murders as alleged were committed, and that there was no negligence on the part of the police in the investigation of the cases. One of the alleged murders is reported to be a case of suicide; in the second, the person said to have been murdered is still alive, and has been traced; and in the third, the woman alleged to have been murdered has been missing, and the report shows that there is no evidence to show that it is a case of murder."

8-40 a.m. SRI K. MADHAVAN NAMBIAR:—"In Dharmatam village in Tellicherry taluk, one woman named Panchali was not seen for the last few months. It was suspected that it was a case of murder due to the quarrels amongst the neighbours. Did the Government conduct any investigation; if not, will they investigate the matter now?"

THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM:—"It was on mere suspicion in respect of the other case also that allegation was made that it was a case of murder. Fortunately or unfortunately it was found later that the man was living and still alive. So again, an allegation is made simply because a woman is missing that she is murdered. There is absolutely no ground to suspect that the woman is murdered."

DR. K. B. MENON:—"Are the Government aware that of late there has been an increase in the number of murders in those areas which used to have the least crime report? Is there any particular reason for this?"

THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM:—"I am not in a position to answer this question as it does not arise out of the main question."

* 914 *Q*.—

MR. SPEAKER:—"Question No. 914 will be taken up tomorrow."

Electricity extension schemes.

* 915 *Q*.—SRI K. T. KOSALRAM: Will the Hon. the Minister for Public Works be pleased to state—

(*a*) how many electricity extension schemes districtwar were sanctioned by the previous Government headed by Sri P. S. Kumaraswamy Raja during 1949 to 1952;